(*b*) Is it not a fact that some time ago it fell to Rs. 56?

(*c*) Are the Government aware that poor people who have invested money in this security lose much on this account and the rich gain at their expense?

(*d*) To avoid hardship to the poor and also unpopularity in respect of the loans that may have to be raised in future, will the Government be pleased to see that the value of these securities is kept up by their purchasing the same in open market with the Sinking Fund at their disposal?

MR. K. GEORGE: (*a*) The Government are not in a position to know the present value of the State debenture bonds as there is no regular market for the same. But, for the purchases made by Government for funds, etc., the rates ordinarily ranged from 85 to 95 per cent. of the face value.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Government are not aware of these. The rules *re* debenture bonds provide for purchases and sales being made through the Financial Secretary to Government.

(*d*) The question is under the consideration of Government.

MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI: With reference to the answer to part (*a*), may I bring to the notice of the Government one instance, at any rate, *viz.*, that in which Mr. T. Padmanabha Rao purchased the Travancore debenture bonds to the value of two lakhs of rupees?

PRESIDENT: It is not a supplementary question. You must put it in the form of a question for obtaining information.

Fee Concession to Panars.

97. Mr. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Keraliya Panar community has prayed for concessional rates of school fees being allowed to the pupils of that community?

(*b*) Is it a fact that the Government declined to grant the prayer?

(*c*) Considering the poor and backward condition of that community, will the Government be pleased to extend the concession to the pupils of that community also?

Mr. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*). The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The matter will be re-examined.

Seeds of Nitrogenous plants.

98. MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to ask the Agricultural Department to purchase seeds of nitrogenous plants for green manure and to distribute them free to the ryots?

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[Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar.]

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: The matter is engaging the attention of Government.

Railway Timings and Carriages.

99. MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI: (*a*) Are the Government aware that the time of arrival and departure of trains between Quilon and Shencottah is ill-suited to passengers, as fixed at present?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to arrange for a re-adjustment of the time-table to suit the convenience of passengers, between the above-said places?

(*c*) Are the Government aware that the number of passenger-carriages attached to some of the trains between Trivandrum and Shencottah is insufficient to meet the demands of passenger traffic, with the result that the carriages are overcrowded and passengers are subjected to great inconvenience? Will the Government be pleased to take steps to remove such inconvenience?

(*d*) Are the Government aware of the inconvenience and danger to which third class passengers are put, on account of some of the shutters for the windows being without bolts, springs, etc., and of the dirty condition of the carriages? Will the Government be pleased to do the needful in the matter?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) There have been no complaints against the present timings since their introduction.

(*b*) The trains that run between Shencottah and Quilon are mostly either through-trains or trains connecting through-trains. If there is inconvenience at a particular locality, it cannot be helped. The day-trains seem to be convenient enough.

(*c*) The inconvenience complained of will be removed when the additional rolling stock under purchase arrives.

(*d*) The attention of the railway authorities will be drawn to the matter.

Schools not open to all classes.

100. MR. N. KUMARAN: Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a list of Government schools which are not open to all classes of students, what steps Government have hitherto taken to remove such restrictions and the probable dates within which they hope to throw them open to all classes in the State?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: A list * of the departmental schools which are not open to all classes of pupils is laid on the table.

The Dewan Peishkars and the inspecting officers of the boys' or girls' schools, as the case may be, have been asked to submit, through the Director of Public Instruction, joint reports as to which among these schools may be thrown open to all classes and which not, with the

* Vide Appendix I—page 338.

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